

Missouri State University
Citizenship and Service-Learning
901 S. National Ave.
Springfield, MO 65897

April 5, 2019

Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 55850
Boston, MA 02205-5850

Dear Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc.,

██████████ Community School, located in the north side of Springfield, Missouri, serves grades kindergarten through fifth grades year-round. They are given the title of a community school due to the fact that they holistically view the lives of their students – within and apart – from school and offer enrichment programming before- and after-school. This all-encompassing view is necessary due to the low-income status of the majority of the community surrounding the school, for Ettie Berneking of *417 Magazine* states that around 88 percent of students at ██████████ qualify for free and reduced lunch.

One of the most enriching after-school programs at ██████████ is the 16-week Art Program created by Olivia Libby, which takes students on a journey to view art from a worldly lens. Each week, grade school students will *travel* to a different country to learn about not only the art specific to that area, but also the rich culture present there. On behalf of ██████████ ██████████ School, Missouri State University's Citizenship and Service-Learning program is seeking funds to aid in the continuation of the after-school Art Program.

Rational: Necessary, Selfless Aid

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc. is an ideal funder for the ██████████ ██████████ School after-school Art Program seeing as they strive to aid communities, as well as arts, culture, and education. The Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc. places significance upon community development and education, and the benefits of ██████████ after-school Art Program are centered upon students and their communities, both goals align seamlessly.

With the help of The Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc., these categories will be served:

- Arts and culture
- Vulnerable populations
- Students
- Low-income individuals

Not only will the students of ██████████ School discover a new way to learn about the world around them, but they will also learn how to make significant impacts in their communities.

The Problem & Solution: Lack of Art Exposure to Low-Income Students

In discouraging terms, ██████████ needs these before- and after-school programs so students have access to meals and attention and parents to childcare; without, these privileges would not happen. ██████████ has a food pantry in the basement of the school, a collection of shoes in the library “for students whose footwear likely don’t stand up to the freezing winter temperatures or rain, according to Ms. Berneking, and is also a three-minute drive from “Springfield’s largest homeless neighborhood” according to

Giacomo Bologna of the *Springfield News-Leader*. These before- and after-school problems keep the students secure and involved in a safe community.

This Art Program doesn't just teach students how to color in the lines, it gives them insight into the wide variety of places and people that exist beyond their – sometimes limiting – reality. The after-school Art Program that [REDACTED] has instilled will give students a more emphasized purpose in their schooling and community, will allow them to see beyond current circumstances into a more positive and goal-oriented future, as well as value their own creativity more. In order for this program to exist, funding is necessary for supplies, and most importantly, enough supplies and in good quality.

The students of [REDACTED] majority of which are growing up in poverty, “are less likely to attend class regularly, graduate high school on time, [...] participate in sports or clubs, apply for ‘choice or special programs, and take Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and dual credit courses,” according to a review of Springfield school achievement data presented by Jungmann. It is pertinent that these children find their passions in positive behaviors; and art can be that passion to fuel continuous learning and community engagement.

In a 2005 report by the Rand Corporation, “the intrinsic pleasures and stimulation of the art experience [does] more than sweeten an individual's life – [...] they can connect people more deeply to the world and open them to new ways of seeing. Without art in schools, students who don't have families who expose them to the arts have no way of experiencing their enriching nature.

Complete funding will allow for the students of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] school to learn about other cultures, and art forms, all the while – most importantly – learning about themselves. With an expanded perspective on life and people beyond Springfield, as well as a thankfulness for their community, connections will be fostered on a much deeper level than before. Students need an outlet to create, and a safe space to express themselves. The after-school Art Program at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] School solves that need.

CASL Credentials: Consistent Execution

Missouri State University's Citizenship and Service-Learning program has benefitted [REDACTED] [REDACTED] School's after-school programs in the past and will continue to do so in the future if accurate funding is provided. Even so, once funding is determined, the needs are being attended to through volunteer work from Missouri State University Students so both sides are experiencing enrichment.

Budget Request: Amounts for Art Supplies

Funding for the after-school Art Program at [REDACTED] will serve kindergarten through fifth graders, with around 20 students participating in each grade. Each of these students will gain self-discovery, experience the value of patience when creating something of worth, as well as decreased stress. Students will visit Africa to create their own abstract patterns, Egypt to form animal sculptures, Italy to learn how to lay out an organized mosaic, and so much more.

Art Around the World			
A 16-Week After-School Art Program			
Week	Program	Supplies Needed	Cost
1	Africa + Abstract Patterns	Markers, scissors, liquid glue, construction paper, scrap paper	\$158
2	India + Bead Art	Dry pasta, other beads, yarn or string	\$23

3	Greece + Landscapes	Acrylic paint, thick paper, paintbrushes, ballets, pencils	\$194
4	Australia + Aboriginal Design	Acrylic paint, palm-sized rocks, paintbrushes, toothpicks	\$2
5	Europe + Still Life	Pencils, paper, colored pencils	\$85
6	China + Calligraphy	Washable ink, small brushes, index cards, scrap paper	\$164
7	Egypt + Sculpture	Crayola Magic modeling clay, play-dough for practice	\$86
8	Southwest America + Sand Painting	Construction paper, colored sand, liquid glue, table cloths	\$76
9	Italian Renaissance + Master's Study	Oil pastels, thick paper, crayons	\$140
10	Japan + Watercolor	Water color paper, watercolors, paintbrushes	\$132
11	Mexico + Collage	Scissors, glue, magazines	\$0 (reuse supplies)
12	Britain & USA + Pop Art	Markers, paper, ruler, scissors, construction paper	\$70
13	Italy + Mosaic	Colored paper, scissors, glue sticks, paper	\$46
14	United States + Comics	Paper, pencils, colored pencils	\$0 (reuse supplies)
15	Final Project: Self-Portrait	Assorted materials	\$0 (reuse supplies)

Conclusion

According to Arizona state superintendent of public instruction, Tom Horne, there are three purposes of education: “preparing kids for jobs, [...] preparing them to be citizens, and [...] teaching them to be human beings who can enjoy the deeper forms of beauty. The third is as important as the other two.”

██████████ School has a large population of students coming from low-income families, which enhances the monetary need of the after-school programs. Without the programs provided by ██████████, most of the students would never get the chance to participate in extracurricular activities. Also, those who provide the grants will not only be serving the students of ██████████, but also the surrounding community.

Join us as we aid in showing the students of ██████████ School how to enjoy and experience the joy of art

Most sincerely,

Citizenship and Service Learning, Missouri State University